



**TOWN OF CONCORD
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
2016 COMMUNITY GARDENER AGREEMENT**

Concord has long supported community gardens and has three community gardens on Town land with over 100 plots, which are currently subscribed to capacity, though there is limited turnover from year to year and the garden coordinators maintain a waiting list. A fourth garden with 18 plots is under development for the 2016 in West Concord – please contact the Division of Natural Resources for more information.

The Gardener Agreement has been developed to formalize the policies and guidelines that govern Concord's community gardens. The Gardener Agreement informs the gardener of the expectations of participating in the community garden, and provide a context for administering and enforcing policies. **It is each gardener's responsibility to read and become familiar with these guidelines, and to submit a signed copy of the Gardener Agreement with your check. Non-compliance with the Agreement may result in forfeiture of your plot.**

- ❖ Plots are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, with preference given to returning gardeners. Plots are assigned by the garden coordinators in this order:
 - Renewing gardeners
 - Returning gardeners wishing to change plots
 - New gardeners
 - Returning gardeners wishing more space
- ❖ Annual plot funds are used by the Town to maintain and improve existing and develop new community gardens. Additional funds may be raised by each garden, with amount and use agreed to by a majority of gardeners (usually at the spring meeting).
- ❖ Gardeners who expect to retain plots must pay the Garden Coordinator by April 15, 2016.
- ❖ Plots are not transferable.
- ❖ Gardens must be planted by June 1. Because of high demand, if plots are not planted by this date, they may be reassigned with no refund.

- ❖ Gardens are intended largely for household use. Commercial sale from plots is prohibited. Donation of produce and flowers to Open Table and other local food pantries is encouraged.
- ❖ Gardens must be kept relatively weed free to minimize weeds from spreading to adjacent plots.
- ❖ Plants must be kept within plot boundaries and kept free of paths.
- ❖ Gardeners must attend at least one gardener meeting to discuss community garden needs, volunteer for shared tasks, schedule cleanup dates, and get to know fellow gardeners.
- ❖ Only organic amendments such as compost, manure, bone meal, fish emulsion, etc. are permitted. Non-organic pesticides, fertilizers, and fungicides are not allowed. If in doubt, check with the Garden Coordinator, Division of Natural Resources, or the Organic Materials Review Institute (www.omri.org).
- ❖ Plastic mulch, row covers, tomato cages, temporary fencing, staking, compost bins, wheelbarrows, and any other non-biodegradable materials must be removed by October 31 (or the season-end cleanup date).
- ❖ No permanent structures are permitted without approval from the Town.
- ❖ Cover crops (i.e. winter rye) are encouraged to stabilize soils and provide a green manure.
- ❖ All rocks should be removed from the garden area and piled in labeled areas (not in common paths). All sizable rocks should be removed by year's end.
- ❖ Gardens are open dawn until dusk, seven days a week.
- ❖ Parking shall be only in designated areas and during times that gardens are open.
- ❖ Dogs are permitted, but must be leashed.
- ❖ Children are welcome, under adult supervision.
- ❖ People under 18 may rent a plot with the written permission of their parents and the Garden Coordinator.
- ❖ The Town of Concord shall not be liable for any injury to persons or property resulting from community gardening activity.
- ❖ If you need special accommodations in order to participate, please contact the Division of Natural Resources at 978.318.3285.

✂ Cut Here

Please make checks payable to the Town of Concord and give your check and this portion of the form to the Garden Coordinator, who will submit one group of checks and Gardener Agreements to the Town.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

Cousins _____ East Quarter Farm _____ Hugh Cargill _____ Rogers _____

I wish to keep the same plot(s) as last year ____ (yes) ____ (no) (Indicate changes below or on reverse)

Do you currently have a plot at another garden? (If yes, please indicate where): _____

Full annual plot (25'x25') Standard fee \$25 _____ Fixed income \$6 _____

Half annual plot (12'x25') Standard fee \$12.50 _____ Fixed income \$5 _____

Perennial plot (10'x10') Standard fee \$10 _____ Fixed income \$5 _____

(East Quarter Farms only)

One-time new gardener fee: \$10 _____

I have enclosed a check made payable to the "**Town of Concord**" in the amount of \$_____.

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the gardener guidelines and agree to abide by them. I hereby agree to hold harmless the Town and/or its employees and volunteers from claims or liability related to any injury or accident that may occur.

Signature _____

Date: _____